

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 15 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended hereby.

The Office Action (1) found claims 6 to 10 to be allowable; and (2) maintained a rejection of claims 1 to 5 and claims 11 to 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,734,457 to Mitsui et al. (hereafter "the Mitsui reference") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,892,391 to Stewart et al. (hereafter "the Stewart reference") and in further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,734,455 to Yoshida et al. (hereafter "the Yoshida reference").

Regarding item (1) identified above, Applicant once again expresses appreciation for the finding of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 6 to 10.

Regarding item (2) identified above, Applicant respectfully submits that present claim 1 is patentable over the art of record and that such claim is in condition for allowance. Present claim 1 reads on a display device having, *inter alia*, "a single color filter layer that is directly associated with the liquid crystal layer via either the first transparent electrode layer located on a surface of the color filter layer toward the rear side of the display device, or by a second transparent electrode layer located on a surface of the color filter layer toward the front side of the display device". It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose or suggest either of these alternative arrangements.

Rather, the Mitsui reference, in contrast, discloses or suggests (i) that two adjacent color filter layers (3, 4) be in direct contact with a liquid crystal layer (2). (See Figs. 1 and


2); (ii) that two adjacent color filter layers (14', 18'; 41, 44) be separated from a liquid crystal layer (12'; 40) by a polarization film (22'; 22'"), a transparent electrode (23'; 23'") and an alignment film (26'; 26'"). (See *Figs. 3 and 5*); and (iii) that a transparent planarization film (22'), a transparent electrode (23'), and an alignment film (26') separate a first color filter layer (14') from the liquid crystal layer (12") and that a second color filter layer (37) be provided on a surface facing the liquid crystal layer (12") with transparent electrodes (24") and an alignment film (27") separating the second color filter layer (37) from the liquid crystal layer (12"). (See *Fig. 4*). Applicant respectfully submits that none of the forgoing color filter arrangements read on the color filter arrangement as defined by present claim 1.

Regarding the Yoshida reference, Applicant respectfully submits that the Yoshida reference, which was cited by the Action for disclosing "a scattering layer on the front side of a display" (Action, p.4, para.2), fails to overcome the above-noted shortcomings associated with the Mitsui reference. In addition, the Stewart reference, which was cited by the Action for disclosing "a color filter that performs coloring of primary colors and an additional portion that transmits white light" (Action, p.3, para.3), likewise fails to overcome the identified shortcomings of the Mitsui reference.

With respect to claims 2 to 5 and claims 11 to 15, which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 to 5 and claims 11 to 15 are patentable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the stated rejection of claims 2 to 5 and claims 11 to 15, and allowance thereof, are respectfully requested.

In sum, it is respectfully submitted that each of the present pending claims are patentable over each of the cited references and/or any proper combination thereof. Hence, this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of all objections, and all rejections of the claims, are respectfully requested and a Notice of Allowability is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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